

# Class Act

King County Solid Waste Division's School Recycling Program Newsletter

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**Education  
Issue**

## Clean Water, Who Needs It?

What do we do that affects our wastewater, lakes, rivers, streams and groundwater? King County's Water Quality Education Program provides an hour of discussion, slides and activities illustrating the impact people have on surface water and wastewater. Review of the water cycle and watersheds, investigation of household and garden products and good alternatives to them, as well as a discussion about the difference between sewer and storm drain water are the focus of the presentation. An introduction to the Endangered Species Act and why salmon are threatened is also

included. Through inquiry the students discover that individual decisions can determine the quality of our waters and that everyone can be a steward.

This presentation is available Mondays and Wednesdays for grades 4-8 (schedule fills by the end of September) and on an individual basis for grades 9-12. Call Lexi Taylor at (206) 296-8287 to schedule.

## Free Field Trip Transportation!

Are you aware of King County's new field trip program? Wheels to Water provides free Metro bus transportation for King County students to go on water quality focused field trips. To register or to get more information, please contact Sharonne Park at (206) 263-6555 or [sharonne.park@metrokc.gov](mailto:sharonne.park@metrokc.gov).



## Free Workshop, Materials, Support

Are you interested in teaching your students how to improve their health and the health of the environment? Would you like free, in-class assistance developing student action projects or an environment fair? The Hazards on the Homefront program can help! It teaches students how to recognize, handle, and substitute for



Next teacher workshop is Friday,  
October 13th in Renton.  
Call (206) 583-0655 for details.

hazardous products in the home. The program emphasizes hands-on activities that meet Essential Academic Learning Requirements for grades 4-12. This free program offers valuable training for teachers, classroom presentations, resources, support for customized student action projects, as well as logistics support and guest speakers for your environment fair. To learn more about this HHW program, contact Jennifer Howell by phone at (206) 583-0655 or e-mail: [jhowell@triangleassociates.com](mailto:jhowell@triangleassociates.com). Programs are available on a first come, first served basis.



King County Solid Waste Division

## Elementary School Programs

### *Who Put the R in Earth?* Assembly

King County Solid Waste Division is once again offering a fast-paced, fun, and educational assembly about conserving natural resources. Available to schools in King County outside of the Seattle School District, this live assembly show is for grades K-6 (a primary and intermediate version are offered). The presenters take the students through a captivating and entertaining series of situations that teach them about natural resources and how waste reduction, recycling, and reuse actions affect different aspects of our environment. Your students

will have fun while they learn how conserving natural resources can contribute to a better, cleaner planet.



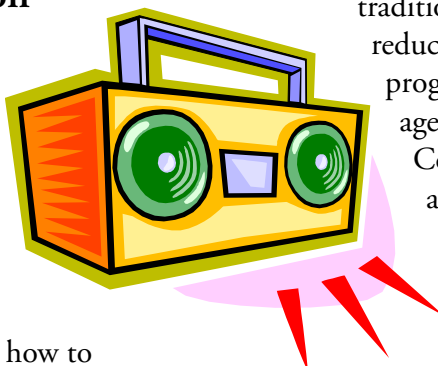
Along with the assembly, which is available from late September 2000 through January 2001, each school receives

up to three individual classroom workshops on waste reduction and recycling, habitat stewardship, or green gardening. Assistance to start student 'Green Teams' to take on activities to help our planet Earth is also available. Each student attending the assembly will receive a *Who Put the R in Earth* magnet made from recycled material.

To schedule this free program for your school, please call Roma at (206) 583-0655 or email her at [rcall@triangleassociates.com](mailto:rcall@triangleassociates.com). This is scheduled on a first come, first served basis, so sign up now!

### Environmental News on the Airwaves

Phil Dumpster and Friends is a humorous take on environmental issues that airs on Disney Radio AM 1250. The 90-second features highlight the adventures of Phil and his friends, Bert the Salmon and Squirt the Worm, as they learn how to



protect and minimize their impact on the environment in their everyday lives.

Phil Dumpster and friends is sponsored by the King County Solid Waste Division and Seattle Public Utilities.

### *Natural Connections* Don't Miss It!

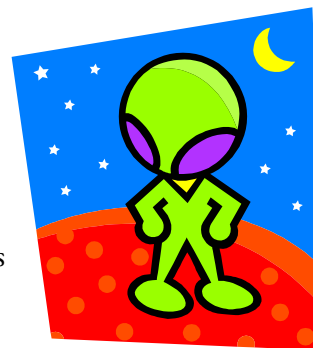
*Natural Connections*, King County's Emmy Award-winning TV program about habitat destruction, introduced species, pollution, population growth, and over-consumption airs again on September 9, 2000 on KOMO-ABC4 at 9:00 PM.

Call (206) 296-4477 for a teaching guide or access it on the web at:

<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/naturalconnections.htm>.

### Out of This World Recycling Education for Kindergarten and Preschool Classes

Professional storyteller Kathie Vitz will enchant your kindergarten or preschool students with the story of Zeela, an interstellar traveler who journeys from her planet Zergatron to Earth in search of an answer of what to do with too much garbage. She learns from her human friends how recycling cuts down on waste. After telling the story, Kathie and the students will act it out. The class will receive a copy of the story at the end of the program.



*Adventures with Zeela* follows in the successful tradition of *Tikli's Nose*, a story about trolls and reducing waste. Teachers may schedule either program. Both programs are suitable for students ages 4-6 and are provided FREE by the King County Solid Waste Division to kindergarten and preschools outside Seattle.

To schedule either story for your class, please call Kathie Vitz at (206) 789-0754.

## Secondary School Programs

### Waste Buster Labs Available for Middle and High School Classrooms

The Waste Busters program offers “hands on” labs about waste reduction, resource conservation and recycling



for middle and high school students in King County outside Seattle. The five middle school lab offerings (Biospheres, Consumption Junction, Sorting It Out, Weigh the Waste, Zero In On Waste) and three high school lab offerings (Count On Recycling, Face The Waste, Waste Not Want Not) are each 45-55 minutes and focus on science or social studies. For more information,

call (206) 443-2851 or email us at [waste\\_busters@pacsci.org](mailto:waste_busters@pacsci.org)!

### Growing RecycleArtists Program Teaches Students Through Art

The King County Solid Waste Division places local artists in classrooms to teach students about waste reduction and recycling and other environmental issues through the medium of art. The RecycleArtist program enters its fourth year in the fall and anticipates having the largest roster of artists yet.

In the past, participating classes learned video production, furniture making, drama, songwriting, woodcarving, mural painting, dance/movement and the creation of musical instruments from recycled materials. Some of these as well as other offerings will be available this year.



If you are interested in learning more about the program, visit our website at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/schoolpr/RecycleArtist2K.htm>. To be notified of the artists and the program availability for the 2000-2001 school year, contact Bill Smith at (206) 296-4407 or email him at [bill.smith@metrokc.gov](mailto:bill.smith@metrokc.gov).

### Natural Connections Workshops

Expanding upon the themes presented in King

County's Emmy-winning documentary, *Natural Connections*, these two exciting and interactive workshops link resource conservation, recycling and preventing waste to preserving biodiversity and the quality of life on Earth. These 45–75-minute workshops, appropriate for grades 6-12, accommodate up to 30 students and integrate Washington Essential Academic Learning Requirements. Choose one or both of the following:

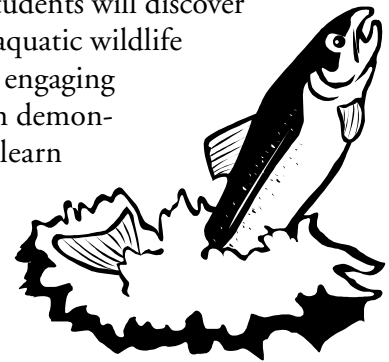


#### Biodiversity in Our World –

What is biodiversity and why is it important to humans? Through challenging discussions, fun, hands-on activities and informative multimedia demonstrations, students will gain a clear understanding of biodiversity and ecosystems. Students rotate through activity stations, exploring the concepts of biodiversity, resource conservation and the preservation of healthy ecosystems.

**Soils For Salmon** – Salmon don't live in soil! So why is soil important? Your students will discover how soil is interconnected to aquatic wildlife and humans in this lively and engaging workshop. Through hands-on demonstrations your students will learn about the functions of soil.

They will also gain an understanding of the positive human impacts of resource conservation and the role of compost in maintaining healthy soils.



These workshops are available to all middle and high school classes in King County outside of the Seattle School District. To sign up for these workshops, please call Colleen Jones at (206) 343-9759 ext.112.

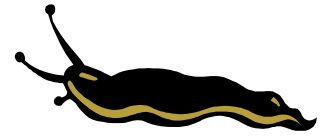
The 2000/2001 Programs for Educators directory will be available at the end of August. To order your copy, call (206) 296-4466 or download it from <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/schoolpr/edudir.htm>.



## *Slugs, Bugs, and Dirty Toilets* Hazardous Waste Workshops

This 60 to 90 minute workshop for grades 4-8 will teach your classroom about common household hazardous products such as bug killers, auto products, paints, and cleaners. It will show how these products affect human and environmental health using hands-on activities, experiments, games, problem solving and discussion. All students get to test safer alternatives from a Green Cleaning Kit, and teachers will receive their own kit for classroom use. The high school lesson takes students shopping as they make tough consumer decisions in a hands-on, hazardous waste shopping game. Teachers frequently integrate this program into studies of water quality and water pollution, recycling and waste disposal, environmental and health issues, and chemistry as it relates to the community.

To schedule this workshop in your classroom, please call Gail Gensler at (206) 263-3082 or fill out the form at [www.metrokc.gov/hazwaste/scripts/schedule.cfm](http://www.metrokc.gov/hazwaste/scripts/schedule.cfm).



## *Earth Legacy Program*

Clean air, land and water — three essential elements which are key to preserving our quality of life. King County's Earth Legacy 2000 recognizes environmental programs, people, and companies working together to improve and enhance air, land and water quality in our region. Join our continuing effort to protect the environment.

To join the program, nominate an Earth Legacy Hero, or find out how to volunteer or participate in community events, visit our website at <http://www.metrokc.gov/earthlegacy/index.htm>.

## **Class Act – August 2000**

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